

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 IO-14 ISO-00 L-03 SSO-00 DRC-01 RSC-01

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O 182140Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEIDATE 2851

INFO AMEMBASSY KINGSTON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO IMMEIDATE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR IMMEDIATE

US MISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 0298

C O N F I D E N T I A L GUATEMALA 2175

E.O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: PBOR

SUBJECT: LOS: PROPOSED VISIT

REF: STATE 078670, GUATEMALA 1609

1. WE DO NOT BELIEVE VISIT OF LOS TEAM TO GUATEMALA WOULD BE GOOD IDEA AT THIS TIME. AS NOTED PREVIOUSLY (GUATEMALA 1609), GUATEMALAN GOVERNMENT HAS NOT YET FOCUSED ON CARACAS CONFERENCE. MORE IMPORTANT, FOREIGN MINISTER ARENALES AND ONE OF HIS PRINCIPAL LOS ADVISORS GUSTAVO SANTISO HEAD OF MFA INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION DIVISION WILL BE ABSENT IN ATALANTA ON APRIL 22. ONLY KEY LOS ADVISOR WHO WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR TALKS WOULD BE LUIS AYCINENA, CHIEF OF MFA LEGAL AFFAIRS AND TREATIES DIVISION.

2. THERE IS COMPETITION WITHIN MFA BETWEEN AYCINEA AND SANTISO FOR INFLUENCE ON LOS MATTERS, AND WE BELIEVE US INTEREST WOULD BEST BE SERVED IF SANTISO'S HAND IS STRENGTHENED. A VISIT BY US LOS TEAM IN HIS AND FONMIN'S ABSENCE WOULD HAVE OPPOSITE EFFECT.

3. FYI AYCINENA IS PROBABLY MOST KNOWLEDGEABLE MAN IN GOG ON LOS MATTER, BUT HE HAS STRONG PERSONAL OPINIONS WHICH OFTEN DO NOT PARALLEL OURS AND ARE SOMETIMES MORE ADVERSE THAN GOG
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POSITIONS. FOR EXAMPLE WE BELIEVE HE PERSONALLY FAVORS ABSOLUTE

200 MILE LIMIT WHEREAS OFFICIAL GOG POSITION IS THAT EXPRESSED
IN DECLARATION OF SANTO DOMINGO.

4. AS CHAIRMAN OF GUTEMALA'S DELEGATION 1958 LOS CONFERENCE,
AYCINENA VOTED AGAINST THE CONVENTION IN DIRECT CONTRAVENTION
OF HIS INSTRUCTIONS AND WAS SUBSEQUENTLY SACKED FOR SO DOING-
WITH A GENTLE PROD FROM THE US WE UNDERSTAND. SYCINENA WAS NOT A
MEMBER OF GUATEMALA'S SANTO DOMINGO DELEGATION(SANTISO WAS
VICE CHAIRMAN), AND WE HOPE HE WILL NOT BE A MEMBER OF ITS
CARACAS DELEGATION. A VISIT BY OUR LOS DELEGATION NOW WOULD
STRENGTHEN HIS CHANCES. WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND THAT THE
TRIP BE POSTPONED UNTIL MID-MAY SUGGESTED BY MFA (GUATEMALA 1609).
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